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LKO 17 AUG 2024 No. 1
RECEIVING

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2364)

Name of Candidate	PRASHANT SINGH		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	613218
Center	LUCKNOW	Date	17/8/24

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH.**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न है **हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी** में छपे है।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए है।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नो के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम मे लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका मे खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended	Strongly Recommended

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Q1. धन शोधन और विदेशी मुद्रा कानूनों के उल्लंघन के अपराधों की जांच करने के अपने अधिदेश को पूरा करने में प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (ED) द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली आलोचनाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the criticisms faced by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in fulfilling its mandate of investigating offences of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Enforcement Directorate is an investigative agency created to look into matters of money laundering in India.

Powers of ED
- → PMLA Act.
- → FEMA Act
- → Fugitive Economic Offenders Act

Criticism of ED
- → 1) Used as a tool against Opposition
- → 2) Arbitrarily used
- → 3) Stringent bail provisions leads to punishment without conviction.
- → 4) Cognizable offences make them ~~not~~ no need of warrant.
- → 5) Extensive search & seizure powers ⇒ misuse

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→ 6) Ground of arrest not communicated to accused

→ 7) Chargesheet admissible in courts

→ 8) Extension of tenure by central govt.

Remedies to make ED more effective

→ 1) Prakash Bansal case
SC held communicating ground of arrest must

→ 2) 'Bail not jail' should be the norm as held in Satinder Antil case

→ 3) Proportionality doctrine should be adhered to

→ 4) Limits on tenure of chairperson of ED

Economic offences need deft investigation but it should not become a tool to target opposition.

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Q2. विभागों से संबद्ध स्थायी समितियां (DRSCs), जिन्हें 'मिनी पार्लियामेंट' भी कहा जाता है, अपने कार्यों को करने में प्रभावी क्यों नहीं रही हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Why are the Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs), also known as 'Mini Parliament', not effective in carrying out their functions? (Answer in 150 words) 10

There are 24 Departmentally related Standing committees with 31 members each. They are also known as mini parliament as ~~cong~~ "Parliament in committee is parliament at work".

Role of DRSCs
- 1) Scrutiny of bills
- 2) Expert consultation
- 3) Amendment recommendation
- 4) Bipartisan consensus development.

Shortcomings of DRSCs
- 1) One year tenure non co-terminus with Lok Sabha.
- 2) Experts & stakeholder consultation not done
- 3) Non involvement of ministers in DRSCs.

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→ 4) Lack of expertise of MPs in technical matters

→ 5) No time limit on laying report before Parliament.

→ 6) Official secrets act & National security act are limitations.

Remedies for effective working

→ 1) Coterminus with Lok Sabha

→ 2) Time limit on laying of reports

→ 3) Mandatory stakeholder consultation

→ 4) Minister involvement.

→ 5) Improving secretariat services.

DRSCs are most vital for executive accountability. Thus they need to be empowered.

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Q3. भारत, अमेरिका और ब्रिटेन में शक्ति पृथक्करण के संदर्भ में क्या समानताएं और भिन्नताएं हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the similarities and differences with regard to the separation of powers in India, USA, and UK? (Answer in 150 words) 10

The idea of separation of powers was given by Montesquieu (Spirit of Laws). But it has different models.

Similarities b/w USA, UK & India

1) Judiciary kept separate from executive & legislature.
2) Constitutionally guaranteed separation
3) Judicial review provided

Differences in USA, UK & India

1) UK is Parliamentary sovereignty, USA is Judicial supremacy while India is a synthesis
2) UK and India are Parliamentary thus overlap b/w executive & legislature. (L) (E)

USA is absolute separation (L) (E) (J).

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→ 3) India & USA are federal, thus seperation of powers at both levels. While UK is unitary

→ 4) Indian judiciary is integrated while USA is federal judiciary.

→ 5) Indian ministers have no legal responsibility while ministers in UK countersign.

→ 6) PM can be member of both houses in India while he must be of lower house in UK.

India, USA & UK are three of the most vibrant democracies in the world. They differ in setup but have great many substantive similarities

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Q4. यद्यपि केंद्र सरकार द्वारा अपनाए गए उपायों ने राज्य की वित्तीय स्थिति को प्रभावित किया है, तथापि राज्य सरकारें स्वयं ही अपने समक्ष आने वाली वित्तीय चुनौतियों के लिए मुख्य रूप से उत्तरदायी हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Though measures adopted by the Central government have impacted state finances, the state governments themselves are mainly responsible for the financial challenges they face. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The debt to GDP ratio of India stood at 84% in 2024 with states debt to GDP ratio at nearly 32% (FRBM mandates 20% for states)

Role of Central govt in state finances
- 1) More elastic taxes kept with centre.
- 2) Burden of welfare on states
- 3) GST took away power of states to impose taxes.
- 4) Increasing cesses & surcharges which are not shared.

Yet states are to blame
- 1) Poor resource allocation
  eg: Revenue receipts very high
- 2) Populist policies against economic efficiencies
  eg: loan waivers.

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→ 3) non utilisation of 50 year interest free loan.

→ 4) Poor tax base, poor collection corruption, etc reduces finances.

→ 5) Finance commission devolution (41%) - yet states not able to reduce debt to GDP ratio.

→ 6) Poor fiscal management practises record keeping & auditing.

Remedies for state finances

- → 1) Strict FRBM adherence
- → 2) Consolidation of schemes
- → 3) Increased tax base
- → 4) Double accounting system to be properly utilised.
- → 5) Uptake of 50 years interest free loan.

State government finances are critical for welfare activities as health, Panchayats etc are in state list

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Q5. हाल ही में भारत के उच्चतम न्यायालय ने निर्णय दिया है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रतिकूल प्रभावों के विरुद्ध अधिकार जीवन और समानता के अधिकार से संबद्ध है। पर्यावरण संबंधी मुद्दों के संवैधानीकरण में न्यायपालिका द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Supreme Court of India recently recognised that the right against the adverse impacts of climate change is intertwined with the right to life and equality. Discuss the role played by the judiciary in constitutionalization of environmental issues. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Supreme Court in M. Ranjitsinh case recognised right against adverse impacts of climate change ruling undergrounding of wires in Great Indian Bustard regions.

Role played by judiciary in constitutionalization of environment

1) Vellore community welfare case recognised sustainable development as vital for Article 21

2) Rehradun Quarrying case reiterated 'Polluter Pay Principle' and 'Precautionary Principle'

3) MC Mehta cases have led to protection of Taj Mahal, etc

4) TN Godavarman case has advised to stick to dictionary meaning of forest & not

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that in land revenue department records under forest conservation Act 1980

→ 5) Supreme Court used article 142 in Union Carbide case to give compensation to Bhopal gas tragedy victims.

Impact of SC activism

- → 1) growth in consciousness on environmental issues
- → 2) Activism from NGOs gained confidence
- → 3) Mandatory on executive to protect environment.
- → 4) Protection of biodiversity & ecosystem.

Supreme Court has played the role of environmental activist in India thus ensuring conservation becomes a 'basic structure' in Constitution.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Q6. स्वयं सहायता समूहों (SHG) के संघ भारत में SHGs को बनाए रखने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण संस्थागत नवाचार के रूप में उभरे हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। इनके कामकाज को कौन-सी कमियां बाधित करती हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

SHG federations have emerged as an important institutional innovation to sustain SHGs in India. Discuss. What inadequacies hamper their functioning? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Self Help Groups are groups of 10-12 members from same socio economic background. There are 1.2 crore SHGs in India with 12 crore member & 88% are women SHGs

Significance of SHGs
- 1) Microfinance provision
- 2) Promote thrift among women
- 3) Skill training to women
- 4) Act as Bank correspondents Bank Sakhis, etc
- 5) Drone training for Lakhpati didis
- 6) Psychological support

Inadequacies of SHGs
- 1) Very small groupings 10-12 members
- 2) Thus low economies of scale.

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→ 3) Patriarchal, divided on caste lines, etc

→ 4) Poor financial literacy, cash management, etc

→ 5) Localised presence

Suggestions to improve working

→ 1) Skill training
eg: Drone training

→ 2) SHG - Bank linkage programme for better microfinance

→ 3) supervision from Lead Bank of the region (Usha Thorat C.)

→ 4) Tax collection from SHGs to be non coercive (YH Malegam C.)

SHGs are first responders in women crisis especially in rural areas. They are vital for achieving SDG 5.

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Q7. बार-बार स्थानांतरण भारत में उच्चतर सिविल सेवा की एक गंभीर समस्या है। सिविल सेवकों के बार-बार स्थानांतरण से जुड़े दोषों पर चर्चा कीजिए और इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Frequent transfers are a pervasive problem among the higher civil service in India. Discuss the drawbacks associated with frequent transfers of civil servants and suggest reforms to overcome this issue. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Civil servants like Ashok Khemka has been transferred several times for his uprightness & honesty.

Drawbacks associated with frequent transfers

1) Waste of expertise gained in a region.
2) Politicised transfers affects whole bureaucracy.
3) Dampens morale of honest officers.
4) Logistical issues. eg: transfer means entire house shift for officers.
5) No codified procedure for it but on the prerogative of government.

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Measures to reduce ill effects of transfer

1) Codified procedure for transfers.

2) Autonomous Civil services Board for transfers to reduce politicisation.

3) Mandatory years of service at a place eg: 3 years.

4) Communication of reason for transfer in writing.

5) Judicial inquiry into frequent transfer cases.

Civil services forms the steelframe of Indian democracy. Frequent transfer rust the steelframe & thus must be avoided.

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Q8. प्रमुख खाद्य उत्पादक होने और व्यापक पोषण कार्यक्रमों के कार्यान्वयन के बावजूद, भारत कुपोषण के संकट से क्यों जूझ रहा है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite being a major food producer and implementing extensive nutrition programmes, why does India continue to struggle with the malnutrition crisis? (Answer in 150 words) 10

India produced 323 million tons of foodgrains in 2023-24, yet ranked at 111 in Global Hunger Index.

Nutrition programmes
- → Mid Day Meals
- → ICDS
- → PDS
- → Antyodaya Anna Yojana

Yet malnutrition crisis
- → Stunting = 36%
- → Wasting = 19%
- → Underweight = 32%

(NFHS5)

Factors for Malnutrition in India
- → 1) Accessibility remains a challenge due to centralised procurement.
- → 2) Affordability
  eg: inflation in tomato, onion, etc.
- → 3) Hidden hunger due to micronutrient deficiency

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→ 4) Focus on rice-wheat & not on millets, etc

→ 5) Sustainability
reducing yields due to climate change.

Measures to deal with it

→ 1) Inclusion of millets, milk, egg etc in mid day meals.

→ 2) Deepening of food processing industry eg: Tomato puree.

→ 3) Climate resilient agriculture
eg: PUSA 1979 & 1985.

→ 4) Community fridges

→ 5) Operation Sulaimani in Khozikode.

To achieve SDG2, India needs to move from green revolution to evergreen revolution.

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Q9. "ईरान के साथ भारत के घनिष्ठ संबंध जारी रहेंगे, भले ही इससे पश्चिम को असुविधा हो।" उपर्युक्त कथन के आलोक में, स्पष्ट कीजिए कि ईरान के साथ संबंध जारी रखना भारत के लिए क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"India's close engagements with Iran would continue even if it may cause discomfort with the West." In the light of the above statement, explain why maintaining a relationship with Iran is significant for India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India Iran relations came under huge strain due to US policies & Chinese aggression.

Irritants in India-Iran relation
- 1) CAATSA of USA.
- 2) (~~Withdrawla~~) withdrawal of USA from JCPOA.
- 3) Growing China - Pakistan - Iran axis
- 4) India - Israel relation.

Significance of India Iran relations
- 1) Energy security for India.
- 2) Connectivity to Afghanistan Central Asia & Eurasia
  eg: Chabahar, INSTC, Zaranj Delaram Highway
- 3) Balance against western hegemony

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→ 4) Avoid China – Pakistan – Iran axis

→ 5) Iran can reduce impact of sactions.

→ 6) Balancing act in West Asia requires Iran's assistance

→ 7) To check nuclear proliferation.

→ 8) Make Pakistan insecure by instigating protests in Baluchistan

Measures to improve relations

→ 1) Strategic partnership signed.

→ 2) Development of Chabahar port.

→ 3) Chief guest on Republic Day parade

India – Iran relations are based on geopolitics of Mandala Siddhanta of kautilya where neighbour's neighbour is a friend.

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Q10. भारत और चीन के बीच सीमा तनाव को प्रभावी तरीके से कम करने में भारत-चीन सीमा शांति और स्थिरता समझौते (BPTA) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the role of the India-China Border Peace and Tranquility Agreement (BPTA) in effectively diffusing border tensions between India and China. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India - China Border Peace & Tranquility agreement was signed by Atal Bihari Vajpayee to settle border disputes peacefully.

Role in diffusing border tensions

1) Non aggression along borders mandated.
2) Return of soldiers accidently crossed LAC
3) Recognise LAC as a soft border till resolution of dispute.
4) Principles for border settlement enumerated — equal position, concern for local population & geography to be considered.

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→ 5) No war after 1962 ~~but~~ between India & China.

→ 6) Sharing of Hydrological data act as a confidence building measure.

Shortcomings of the agreement

→ 1) Galwan clashes couldn't be avoided.

→ 2) Rising power of China threatens the agreement.

→ 3) No timeline on resolution of dispute.

→ 4) China using Medog Dam as a card against India

India China relations are guided by Panchasheel. To ensure Asian century the Elephant & Dragon must dance together.

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Q11. आपकी राय में, लोक सभा और राज्य विधान सभाओं के लिए एक साथ निर्वाचन कराने से भारत में समग्र शासन को किस हद तक बढ़ावा मिल सकता है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent, in your opinion, can holding simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies augment overall governance in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Government established Ram Nath Kovind committee to examine feasibility of holding simultaneous elections. The committee recommended in favour of it.

Benefits of simultaneous elections in governance

1) No policy paralysis as model code of conduct is not imposed frequently
2) Long term policy making keeping electoral calculus on backburner.
3) Less polarisation of society
   ⇒ coherent policies.
4) Reduced expenditure
5) Reduced role of money & muscle power in politics

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Problems with holding simultaneous elections

1) Constitutional amendment required.
2) Impacts federalism; mixes national issues with regional issues
3) Favours national parties.
4) Logistical challenges eg. EVM, personnels, etc
5) Problem of hung assembly, mid term dissolution, etc
6) Federalism is a basic structure of constitution.

Suggestions for holding simultaneous election

1) State ratification not required as elections in state is a Union list subject (Ram Nath Kovind Committee)

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→ 2) Election commission to prepare a plan of EVMs required, etc beforehand.

→ 3) Constructive vote of no confidence

→ 4) Elections every 2.5 years

→ 5) Preparation of common electoral rolls

India had had simultaneous elections till 1967. However, the concern of federalism is genuine. All party consultation should lead the way ahead.

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Q12. भारतीय संविधान एक जीवंत दस्तावेज है जो समाज की बदलती आवश्यकताओं और आकांक्षाओं को प्रतिबिंबित करने के लिए समय के साथ विकसित हुआ है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Indian Constitution is a living document that has evolved with time to reflect the changing needs and aspirations of the society. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Indian constitution is a living document evident from 100 plus amendments till date. Further, it has been amended by simple majority outside of article 368 & creative interpretation of judiciary as well.

Reflection of society in Indian constitution amendments

→ 1) Special provisions added for SEBC in Article 15 after Mandal commission revelation

→ 2) Freedom of speech & expression expanded to include right to information, silence, etc after consciousness of civil rights grew. eg: Mazdoor Kisan Sangathan agitation.

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→ 3) Article 21 reinterpreted to mean 'due process of law' & 'widest liberty'

→ 4) Environmental concerns constitutionalized post Stockholm Conference call for sustainable development.

→ 5) Right to education added as a fundamental right.

→ 6) Freedom of religion adjusted to provide space for reforms eg: ban on triple talaq.

→ 7) President made bound by aid & advice of CoM after understanding of Parliamentary form of govt grew.

→ 8) Concurrence is ~~not~~ required for appointment of judges to ensure independence of

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judiciary.

→ 9) Timelines fixed on various silent provisions eg: Speaker must decide in 6 months on Anti defection cases (Keishum Meghchandra case)

→ 10) Article 200 reinterpreted to strengthen federalism.

Static provisions
- → 1) Basic structure doctrine
- → 2) Set of fundamental rights.
- → Preventive detention not removed.
- → Article 356 yet present.

Indian constitution has been the cornerstone of the nation because of its ability to reform as & when required.

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Q13. भारत की आपराधिक न्याय प्रणाली में विद्यमान कमियां विचाराधीन कैदियों के मानवाधिकारों को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करती हैं? इन कमियों को दूर करने के लिए कौन-से सुधार आवश्यक हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How do the deficiencies in the Indian criminal justice system impact the human rights of undertrial prisoners? What reforms are necessary to address these deficiencies? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Indian Criminal Justice System was governed by IPC 1860, CrPC 1973, Indian Evidence Act 1872, etc uptill recently.

Deficiencies in Indian criminal Justice System

1) Huge undertrials ⇒ 77% (NCRB)
2) Huge pendencies ⇒ 5.06 crore
3) Stringent bail provision.
4) Lack of digitalisation.
5) Zero FIR not mandatory
6) Overburdened judiciary
   21 judges per million
7) Overburdened Police
   152 per lakh population.
8) Colonial provisions
   eg: Whipping in Indian Police Act.

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Impact on rights of undertrials

1) trial becomes punishment
   eg: 20 years in jail awaiting trial.
2) Custodial deaths – 100 plus in each of last five years
3) Custodial torture & rapes
   eg: Thootikudi father-son duo.
4) Poor hygiene in jails
5) High occupancy rates eg: 178% for Tihar ⇒ deaths.
6) Non admissibility of digital records ⇒ higher conviction rate

Reforms initiated

1) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita & Sakshya Adhiniyam brought.
2) Timelines set eg: judgement in 30 days after completion of trial.

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→ 3) Digital records made admissible
eg: emails, etc

→ 4) Mandatory video recording of witness statement in rape cases.

→ 5) ~~Bail~~ Bail not jail reiterated
eg: Satinder Antil case.

→ 6) Community service as punishment
⇒ reduce occupancy.

→ 7) CCTV in police custody
Paramvir Singh Saini case

Reforms needed
- → Open jails (Mulla Com)
- → Plea Bargaining (Mulla Com)
- → Alternate Dispute resolution (Sri Krishna Comm)
- → Separation of convicts from undertrials (Model Prison Act 2023)

Justice delayed is justice denied.

Indian criminal justice system needs to be fast tracked to protect undertrial rights.

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Q14. राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) भारत में मानवाधिकारों के प्रहरी के रूप में अपनी भूमिका का प्रभावी तरीके से निर्वहन क्यों नहीं कर पाया है? इसे ग्लोबल अलायंस ऑफ नेशनल ह्यूमन राइट्स इंस्टिट्यूशंस (GANHRI) से मान्यता प्राप्त करने से रोकने के लिए कौन-से कारण उत्तरदायी हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Why has the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) not been able to effectively carry out its role as the watchdog of human rights in India? What are the reasons that have prevented it from getting accreditation from the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The GANHRI withheld accreditation of NHRCI for second consecutive year. This shows poor performance of NHRC vis-a-vis other countries Human rights bodies.

Shortcomings in NHRC functioning

1) 'Toothless Tiger' (HL Dattu) with no punitive powers.

2) Only advisory role with govt. discretion to accept / reject it.

3) One year time limit on cases' occurance, it can inquire.

4) Limitations on Armed

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forces conduct eg: AFSPA

→ 5) Official ~~Secret~~ Secrets Act, National Security Act, etc are limitations.

→ 6) Lack of collaboration with NGOs

→ 7) Poor criminal justice system ⇒ huge undertrials.

Reasons for non accreditation of NHRC

→ 1) Ineffectiveness in protecting Human rights especially of undertrials.

→ 2) Poor representativeness eg: only 95/393 members have been women.

→ 3) Lack of enforcement powers.

Suggestions to empower NHRC

i) Regular visits to jails in collaboration with media, NGOs, etc.

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ii) Power to impose punishment.

iii) Do away with one year restriction on investigation.

iv) Human rights violation by armed forces not to be immune from inquiry.

v) Learning from Global Human Rights bodies.

Human rights are essential for survival as a human being. NHRC needs to be empowered to protect rights of undertrials.

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Q15. महिलाओं का कार्यस्थल पर लैंगिक उत्पीड़न (निवारण, प्रतिषेध और प्रतितोष) अधिनियम, 2013 की पृष्ठभूमि और प्रमुख प्रावधानों पर चर्चा कीजिए। अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। इसकी प्रभावशीलता को बेहतर बनाने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? इस संबंध में उच्चतम न्यायालय के निर्णयों का संदर्भ प्रस्तुत कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the background and key provisions of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. List the implementation challenges that the Act faces. What measures can improve its effectiveness? Refer to Supreme Court judgments in this regard. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The POSH Act was enacted in 2013 based on Vishakha guidelines and recommendations of Justice Verma Committee

Background of POSH Act
- 1) Bhanwari Devi Case led to promulgation of Vishakha guidelines by Supreme Court
- 2) Delhi gangrape led to establishment of Justice Verma committee
- 3) Both acted as basis for POSH Act 2013

Key Provisions of POSH Act
- 1) Mandatory Internal grievance committee to register women sexual harassment cases.
- 2) Defined types of sexual

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harassment.

→ 3) Penalties for non establishment of Grievance committee.

→ 4) Procedure of complaint filing & trial.

Limitations of POSH Act

→ 1) Non establishment of Internal Grievance body.

→ 2) Delays in trials.

→ 3) Biased trials to protect reputation of institutions

→ 4) Anti women rulings

→ 5) Women willingly don't complaint as backlashes from colleagues, loss of job threat

→ 6) Aim to ~~suppress~~ suppress cases.

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Measures to improve effectiveness

1) Mandatory establishment of Internal Complaint committee
2) Regional Employment Tribunal instead of Internal Committee (Riebeiro Committee).
3) Time limits on trial completion.
4) Burden of ~~pro~~ proof on accused.
5) Privacy of victim to be maintained.

In light of recent Kolkata doctor rape & murder case, there is a need to strengthen POSH Act to deter perpetrators.

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Q16. राज्य विधान सभाओं के अध्यक्षों से संबद्ध पूर्वाग्रह और पक्षपात के मुद्दों को देखते हुए, क्या आपको लगता है कि दलबदल विरोधी कानून के तहत उन्हें दी गई शक्तियां वापस ले ली जानी चाहिए? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

With issues of prejudice and partisanship associated with Speakers of State Legislative Assemblies, should the powers under the anti-defection law be taken away from their hands? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Speakers are the highest officers in State assemblies tasked with conducting assembly proceeding cordially. However, partisan role has brought spotlight on the office-

Partisan role of Speakers

1) Disqualification of members on grounds of Anti defection
- used arbitrarily eg: Nabam Rebia Case-

2) Expulsion of members on grounds of breach of privilege

3) Expunging speeches arbitrarily

4) Final authority on money bill

5) No time limit on decision

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of anti defection cases.

→ 6) less time alloted to opposition.

→ 7) Appointment ~~one~~ of members in various committees — biased

Need to take away ADL powers from Speaker

→ 1) Speaker ~~is~~ has affinity with ruling party.

→ 2) All other cases of disqualification are decided by President in consultation with ECI

→ 3) Arbitrary use precedents.

→ 4) To have real accountability & dissent

→ 5) No time limit leaves scope for manouverability.

Reforms for Speaker office

→ 1) ADL powers to be exercised by President in consultation with ECI

→ Time limits on decision as

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held by Supreme Court in Keishum Meghchandram case

→ 3) Once a speaker, always a speaker.

→ 4) speaker can be made member of Upper house post retirement as in Britain.

→ 5) Mandatory time alloted for opposition.

→ 6) Decision on money bill to be done by Parliament & not speaker.

Speaker needs to be a man of impeccable impartiality. Partisanship in this office can make executive accountability a mirage.

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Q17. हाल ही में, यू.जी.सी. ने भारत में विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों द्वारा परिसरों की स्थापना और संचालन के लिए विनियम जारी किए हैं। भारत में विदेशी उच्चतर शिक्षा संस्थानों (FHEIs) के प्रवेश को अनुमति देने के कारणों की विवेचना कीजिए। उनके सुचारू प्रवेश को सुनिश्चित करने में प्रमुख बाधाएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Recently, the UGC released regulations for establishment and operation of campuses by foreign universities in India. Discuss the reasons for allowing the entry of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) in India. What are the major obstacles in ensuring their smooth entry? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Government allowed Foreign Higher Education Institutions to establish campuses in India. In regard to this UGC released guidelines –

UGC guidelines
- 1) Must be in top 500 rankings.
- 2) Must be global expert in particular field
- 3) Must take permission from UGC
- 4) Cannot run online courses as of now.
- 5) Foreign fundings to be disclosed periodically.

Reasons for allowing FHEIs
- 1) Expertise in some fields eg: technology & MIT
- 2) Better quality education

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for Indians at home.

→ 3) Reduced expenses on accomodation in foreign countries.

→ 4) Collaboration with local HEIs

→ 5) Improved research climate in the country.

→ 6) Increase Gross enrollment ratio from current 27%.

Obstacles in ensuring smooth entry

→ 1) Anti India curriculum of some universities.

→ 2) Funding accountability

→ 3) Elitist nature – may create knowledge divide

→ 4) Reluctance of good foreign universities to expand in India.

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→ 5) Excessive govt regulation may dampen autonomy & creativity.

→ 6) High fees may deter poors from admission.

Suggestions to ensure smooth entry

→ 1) Light touch regulation of FHEIs

→ 2) Regular inspection of curriculum by UGC

→ 3) Mandatory to ensure quality at par with original campuses.

→ 4) Regular auditing of donations.

→ 5) Reserve a set of seats for EWS

Higher Education in India suffers from funding (0.65% of GDP on GERD) & quality. FHEIs can bring both.

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Q18. महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम (MGNREGA) अपने मूल उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में किस हद तक सफल रहा है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent has the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) achieved its core objectives? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The MGNREGA Act was enacted to give a right based approach to employment on demand in India aimed at curbing poverty.

Provisions of MGNREGA
- 1) Mandatory 100 days employment on demand.
- 2) Unskilled work in rural areas
- 3) Compensation if not provided in 15 days.
- 4) within 5 km radius
- 5) 1/3 beneficiaries to be women.
- 6) Mandatory social auditing
- 7) Geotagging – Bhuvan app

Assessment of MGNREGA Act

Achievements	Drawbacks
i) Acted as a social security scheme	i) Poor quality of assets created

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during pandemic.

ii) Provided employment to ~~mig~~ reverse migrants.

iii) Huge demand eg: 86000 crore layout (FY24)

iv) Pioneer scheme for geotagging, social auditing

v) Women empowerment.

vi) Hailed by World Bank as a great scheme.

vii) MIS feeding & Muster rolls reduced leakages.

viii) Aadhar based payment made mandatory

eg: Restruction & reconstruction of assets

ii) Indicator of prevalant job scarcity in market.

iii) Budgetary allocation has been reducing

iv) wages very low

v) wages indexed to CPI - AL

vi) Non uniforming in wages across states.

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Suggestions to improve MGNREGA

1) Mandatory social auditing by Gram Sabha

2) Involvement of NGOs in auditing.

3) Increased budgetary allocation.

4) Indexing wages to CPI - RL

5) Fixing floor rates by centre.

MGNREGA has been the life line of rural India especially Covid times. The scheme needs to be reformed for better functioning.

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Q19. "बदलती हुई भू-राजनीतिक परिस्थितियां बंगाल की खाड़ी की सामरिक अवस्थिति को हिंद-प्रशांत की व्यापक अवधारणा के लिए महत्वपूर्ण बनाती हैं।" उपर्युक्त कथन के आलोक में, क्षेत्रीय सहयोग और स्थिरता को बढ़ावा देने में बिम्सटेक (BIMSTEC) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"Changing geopolitical realities make the strategic location of the Bay of Bengal crucial to the wider concept of the Indo-Pacific." In the light of the above statement, discuss the role of the BIMSTEC in enhancing regional cooperation and promoting stability. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The idea of Indo Pacific was given by Shinzo Abe in his speech "Confluence of Seas" to Indian Parliament. Indo Pacific has emerged as the theatre of global politics since then.

Strategic location of Bay of Bengal

1) At the centre of Indo Pacific.
2) Major trade routes pass through it eg: Malacca routes.
3) Has countries of both South Asia & South East Asia bordering it.
4) Andaman & Nicobar Island provides active vigilance.
5) Crucial for securing Sea lines of communication.

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Role of BIMSTEC in regional cooperation & stability

1) Brings South Asia & South East Asia together.

2) Multisectoral approach not limited to security & trade

3) Actualises Act East Policy of India.

4) Connectivity projects eg: Kaladan MMT, IMT trilateral highway

5) Blue economy vision 2025 could be promoted.

6) Check Chinese hegemony in the region eg: String of Pearls.

7) India to act as net security provider through SAGAR

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Challenges with BIMSTEC

1) Myanmar junta rule
2) Bangladesh crisis
3) Slow progress on IMT trilateral highway
4) Myanmar has become largest producer of opium (Golden Triangle)
5) Big Brother attitude of India
6) Trade deficit of South Asian countries with India.

Recently, BIMSTEC charter came into force with Nepal as last country to sign it. This can pave way for further cooperation.

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Q20. विवेचना कीजिए कि भारत की विस्तारित रक्षा कूटनीति किस प्रकार पड़ोस में इसके प्रभाव को सुदृढ़ करती है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss how India's expanding defence diplomacy strengthens its influence in the neighbourhood. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Defence diplomacy encompasses joint production, sharing of defence technologies, export of defence products, etc. India has increased its defence diplomacy in recent years.

India's Defence Diplomacy

1) F414 engine deal with USA
2) iDEX launched
3) Defexpo organized at Gandhinagar.
4) Sale of Brahmos to Philippines
5) Defence corridors in UP & Tamil Nadu
6) Dhirendra Singh Committee recommended Buy IDDM; defence indigenization, etc

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Impact on neighbourhood

1) Improved power status of India.

2) India to act as net security provider in ~~Indo-~~ Indian Ocean Region.

3) Actualisation of SAGAR initiative.

4) India to become regional hegemon in South Asia

5) Deterrance for adverse neighbours like Pakistan & China.

6) Improved relations with major powers
eg: Japan, Australia, etc.

7) Neighbours may sign defence pacts with India if products found reliable.

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Challenges in Defence diplomacy

1) India is still largest arms importer in the world.

2) Low private sector participation

3) Buy back clause hinders Foreign Collaboration.

4) Competition from US, China, Russia, France, Israel

5) India Out policy of neighbours eg: Maldives

Indian defence diplomacy can act as a compliment to its Diaspora diplomacy. Both can ensure sufficient Hard & soft power mix.

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INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH.**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं **हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी** में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended	Strongly Recommended

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Q1. न्यायालयों द्वारा की जा रही व्याख्या के कारण भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 21 के तहत प्राण और दैहिक स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार के दायरे का विस्तार हुआ है। न्यायालय के प्रासंगिक पूर्ववर्ती निर्णयों की सहायता से चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The evolving interpretation by the courts have led to the expansion of the scope of the Right to Life and Personal Liberty under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. Discuss with the help of relevant case laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Article 21 of the constitution provides for Right to life by procedure established by Law and personal liberty and encompasses a whole set of rights.

Expansion of scope through judicial interpretation

i) AK Gopalan Case - Supreme Court stuck to pedantic approach restricting liberty to personal sphere.

ii) Maneka Gandhi Case - widened liberty as not mere animal existence but with dignity. Also made due process of law implicit.

iii) Included Right to education in Article 21 before making

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it a standalone right (Article 21A)

iv) Right to sustainable environment was incorporated by the Vellore community welfare case.

v) Freedom from pollution incorporated by the MC Mehta case.

vi) Recently incorporated Right to be protected from adverse effects of 'climate change' in MK Ranjitsinh case.

vii) Right to privacy incorporated by the Puttuswamy case 2017.

viii) Right to information first came under Article 21.

Thus, supreme court has not only protected fundamental rights but also widened them by creative interpretation.

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Q2. लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा 8A भारत में चुनावी प्रक्रिया की अखंडता को किस प्रकार सुरक्षित रखती है। विश्लेषण कीजिए (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Analyse how Section 8A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 preserves the integrity of the electoral process in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Representation of People act 1951 provides for qualifications, disqualifications, election machinery, process and resolution of election disputes provisions.

Section 8A of RPA 1951

i) Provides for disqualification on various grounds.

ii) A person convicted under Dowry Act, Civil Rights Act, etc is permanently disqualified.

iii) A person convicted for 2 years is disqualified for 6 years upon release.

iv) List types of electoral offence & Corrupt practises.

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Role in preserving integrity of elections

i) Provides a level playing field for all candidates.

ii) Reduces criminalisation of politics (currently 43% MP face criminal charges)

iii) Gives Election Commission of India powers to disqualify candidates.

iv) ECI advices President with respect to disqualification of Members of legislatures.

v) Immediate disqualification after Lily Thomas Case ruling.

Thus, ~~RPA~~ RPA 1951 is the bulwark of free & fair elections in India, a basic structure in India.

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Q3. भारतीय संविधान की नौवीं अनुसूची को प्रारंभ में किन उद्देश्यों के साथ प्रस्तुत किया गया था? क्या उच्चतम न्यायालय नौवीं अनुसूची में शामिल किए गए किसी कानून की समीक्षा कर सकता है? न्यायालय के पूर्ववर्ती निर्णयों की सहायता से चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

With what objectives was the Ninth Schedule of the Indian Constitution initially introduced? Can the Supreme Court review a legislation that has been placed in the Ninth Schedule? Discuss with the help of case laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The IXth Schedule was introduced by the 1st Constitutional Amendment Act to protect certain laws especially land reform laws from judicial scrutiny under Article 13.

Objective of introduction of IXth Schedule

i) Protect laws relating to land reforms from judicial review

ii) Implement welfare functions under Article 39 (b) & (c) without violating Artill 19 & 14

iii) More comprehensive than Article 31A & 31C

iv) Allow Parliament to by pass judicial review.

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Supreme Court's power under IXth schedule

i) Laws under it were immune from judicial review.

ii) However, in IR Coelho case 2009 Supreme Court held that judicial review is a basic structure & there cannot be blanket bar on it.

iii) Thus laws enacted after 24th April 1973 are open to judicial review.

iv) However, Supreme Court cannot suo moto review those laws but must be complained first.

Thus, Supreme Court has reinstated judicial review over Parliamentary sovereignty readjusting the fine balance.

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Q4. ऑनलाइन विवाद समाधान (ODR) द्वारा प्रदान की जाने वाली विवादों के उचित, त्वरित और प्रभावी समाधान तक पहुंच कई चुनौतियों से घिरी हुई है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Online Dispute Resolution's (ODR) promise of access to just, speedy and effective resolution of disputes is beset with several challenges. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Online dispute Resolution (ODR) encompasses online trial to settle disputes with no need of physical presence.

Advantages of ODR

i) Saving of cost on travel, accomodation, etc.

ii) Faster trial as no need for self presence.

iii) Wider territorial jurisdiction including other states too.

Yet, there are several challenges to Online Dispute Resolution —

i) Digital illitracy — eg. only 22% of elderlies are digitally literate.

ii) Internet connectivity especially in

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rural areas & hinterlands

iii) Privacy breach by hacking, etc.

iv) Technical glitches slowing down the trial process.

v) Duplication of witnesses, evidences etc behind cameras

vi) Forced trial on blackmail behind cameras.

vii) Physical examinations like DNA test, exhibition of body, etc becomes tough on online process.

Thus, ODR may help reduce pendencies in courts but needs to be made foolproof to ensure justice delivery is not trampled.

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Q5. केंद्रीय सूचना आयोग के कार्यालय द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं के कारण सूचना का अधिकार (RTI) अधिनियम निरर्थक हो गया है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Right to Information (RTI) Act has fallen into redundancy owing to the issues faced by the Office of the Central Information Commission. Analyse. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Right to Information Act 2005 was enacted as a sunshine legislation on demands of Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan.

Features of RTI Act
- 1) Mandatory information provision
- 2) Suo moto information disclosure
- 3) PIO in each institution
- 4) 30 days time limit.
- 5) Office of CIC & ICs
- 6) Exemptions under section 8.

Issues faced by Office of CIC

i) Not a constitutional body

ii) Working at below par manforce.

iii) 2019 amendment reduced position of CIC from that of being

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equivalent to SC judge.

iv) It further made Central govt to decide on tenure and conditions of service for CIC & ICs.

v) Many offices & institutions still do not have PIOs.

Recommendations for effective functioning

i) Constitutional status

ii) Reinstate earlier position of CIC equivalent to SC judge.

iii) Tenure & condition of service to be decided by Parliament.

iv) Mandatory appointment of PIO by all institutions.

The CIC office is key to working of RTI Act and thus ensuring transparency & accountability

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Q6. सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (ICT) ने भारत में जमीनी स्तर पर शासन परिदृश्य को किस प्रकार परिवर्तित कर दिया है? इसकी पूर्ण क्षमता का लाभ उठाने में आने वाली प्रमुख बाधाएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How has Information and Communication Technology (ICT) transformed the governance landscape at the grassroots level in India? What are the key obstacles in leveraging its full potential? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Governance at grassroot levels is being facilitated by ICT to improve its access and effectiveness.

Role in grassroot governance

i) Bharat net project aims to connect all 2.62 lakh Gram Panchayats with optical fibre network

ii) Direct Benefit Transfer reduced leakages & corruption

iii) Biometric authentication ensured targetted delivery.

iv) Soil health card scheme improved agricultural productivity

v) JAM trinity ensured financial inclusion.

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vi) Smart contracts facilitated contract farming

Challenges in leveraging full potential

i) Digital divide eg: only 42% women own smartphone compared to 59% men

ii) Biometric authentication errors leading to exclusion errors.

iii) Digital illiteracy especially among rural inhabitants.

iv) Internet penetration still a challenge.

v) Inter operability of ICT solutions still not fully realised

However, government is taking steps like PM WANI, Digital Shakti 4.0, etc to improve grassroot governance through use of ICT.

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Q7. सिविल सेवाओं का राजनीतिकरण भारत में शासन के 'स्टील फ्रेम' को किस प्रकार नष्ट कर देता है? इस प्रभाव का प्रतिकार करने के लिए कौन-से उपाय अपनाए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does the politicization of the civil services corrode the 'steel frame' of governance in India? What measures can be implemented to counteract this effect? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Civil services were called the steel frame of India by Sardar Patel who were responsible for policy formulation, execution & service delivery.

Impact of politicisation of steel frame

i) Increased corruption when political protection.

ii) Transfers based on political calculus eg: plum postings to aide & hinterlands to honest officers.

iii) Poor service delivery when no accountability.

iv) Misuse of public funds for electoral campaigns.

v) Bureaucrats joining parties without cool off period.

vi) Compromised fairness of elections.

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eg: Chandigarh Mayoral election.

Recommendations for depoliticisation

i) Civil Services Board for appointments transfers, etc

ii) Minimum tenure of 3 years at one place eg: DGP for 3 years ruled in Prakash Singh judgment.

iii) Promotions based on peer review & not arbitrarily by govt.

iv) Regular auditing of public finances.

v) Mid career training (Yugandhar Committee)

Civil servants form part of permanent executive. Collapse of bureaucracy can lead to social revolutions & thus must be prevented.

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Q8. लैंगिकता वृद्धावस्था का एक महत्वपूर्ण आयाम है। भारत में सामाजिक अलगाव और वंचना का सामना करने वाली बुजुर्ग महिलाओं की समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Gender is an important dimension of ageing. What measures can be taken to solve the problems of elderly women facing social alienation and deprivation in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Feminisation of ageing is a common phenomenon across the globe due to longer life expectancy of women. 58% elderlies in India are women.

Problems faced by elderly women

i) 54% are widow & thus face loneliness.

ii) Higher financial dependence on family due lack of pension.

iii) Higher cases of violence against elderly women than men.

iv) Ghettoisation of elderly women more than men.

v) Dementia, comorbidities, etc during old age.

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Measures needed to prevent deprivation & social alienation

i) Widow remarriage to be de stigmatised

ii) Old age homes eg: Jamtara DM converted dilapidated public buildings into old age homes.

iii) Tapping the silver economy

iv) Pension & insurance coverage expansion eg: Vayoshree Vandana Yojana

v) SACRED Portal to help elderly women looking for job.

vi) Mandatory maintenance as provided under Elderly Welfare & Maintenance Act

Elderly women needs to be prioritised in welfare schemes as they are facing immense mental health issues in rapidly changing world.

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Q9. भारत और अफ्रीकी देशों के बीच राजनीतिक एवं आर्थिक जुड़ाव को बढ़ावा देने में भारतीय प्रवासी क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What role can the Indian diaspora play in fostering political and economic engagement between India and African countries? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Indian diaspora stands at 3.2 crore and includes Non Resident Indians, Person of Indian origin and OCI Card holders. Indian diaspora in Africa is located in South Africa and other countries especially due to colonial legacy

Role in India Africa relations

Political
- 1) Lobbying for pro India relations
- 2) Supporting policies that would benefit India.
- 3) Promoting Indian culture & India's support for Global South in Africa
- 4) Persuading African governments

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for UNSC reforms & permanent seat to India.

Economic
- 1) Development of African countries by bringing investments.
- 2) Deepening of markets for Indian products.
- 3) Fulfilling India's mineral demand eg: KABIL project.
- 4) Persuading African countries to stand with India in WTO reforms & UNFCCC.

India Africa relations are bound to widen as both share common history and are part of Global South aiming to leap forward eg: Viksit Bharat 2047 & Africa Vision 2063.

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Q10. अपने प्रारंभ के एक दशक से भी अधिक समय बाद, बेल्ट एंड रोड इनिशिएटिव के लाभ, विशेष रूप से विकासशील देशों के लिए, भ्रामक साबित हुए हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

More than a decade after its inception, the benefits of the Belt and Road Initiative have proven to be illusory, especially for developing countries. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Belt and Road Initiative was proposed by China as the modern Silk Route to develop infrastructure projects across Eurasia.

Achievement of BRI

i) Development of naval bases eg. Djibouti, Gwadar, etc

ii) Expansion of Chinese trade through the Silk route.

iii) Development of the CPEC corridor.

iv) China being able to resolve Malacca dilemma to some extent.

However, the BRI has been illusory especially for developing countries—

i) Debt trap diplomacy of China eg:

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Sri lanka had to sell Hambantota port

ii) Even in Pakistan there is resentment against CPEC.

iii) Poor cost forecasting of projects.

iv) China led banks like AIIB to fund projects ⇒ Chinese monopoly

v) Even labours being brought from China, thus no employment creation

vi) Many projects have huge cost overruns due to delays.

Thus, India's Stakeholder approach as shown in Asia Africa Growth Corridor is better for developing countries.

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Q11. भारत में पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRIs) के समक्ष आने वाली वित्तीय बाधाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। उनके राजस्व संसाधनों में वृद्धि करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the financial constraints faced by the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India. What measures can be taken to augment their revenue resources? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Panchayati Raj Institutions were constitutionalized by the 73rd amendment act. However, voluntary provisions especially with respect to finances have made them dys-functional.

Financial ~~constrati~~ constraints faced by PRIs

i) Own resources account for only 3-5% of revenues

ii) Depend on Centre & States for devolution & grants.

iii) These devolution often come tied thus constraining autonomy of PRIs

iv) PRIs are not allowed to borrow from markets unlike Urban local bodies (Muni bonds).

v) PRIs are reluctant to impose taxes on local subjects.

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vi) State Finance Commissions have not been established. Only 9 states have established it, while only 2 are working.

vii) Reducing elasticity of taxes imposed by PRIs.

Measures to augment PRI resources

i) Allowing PRIs to borrow from markets through Panchayat bonds.

ii) Mandatory establishment of State Finance Commission (15th Finance Commission tied devolution of grants to state on this condition)

iii) Increasing the tax base & tax pool for PRIs.

iv) Pooling common resources to uptake credit from market eg: 2-3 villages can provide common

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guarantee.

v) Social auditing by Gram Sabha to ensure misutilisation of available resources is curbed.

vi) Proper Cash Management System and Auditing of PRI accounts to curb leakages.

PRIs were based on the concept of popular sovereignty. However, without financial backing they won't be able to function. Thus ensuring financial independence is important.

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Q12. भारत में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव सुनिश्चित करने में भारत निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। मुख्य निर्वाचन आयुक्त और अन्य निर्वाचन आयुक्त अधिनियम, 2023 ECI की स्वतंत्रता को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करेगा? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the role of the Election Commission of India (ECI) in ensuring free and fair elections in India. How will the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023 impact the independence of the ECI? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The election commission of India is a constitutional body established under Article 324 to conduct free & fair elections (basic structure).

Role of ECI in ensuring free & fair elections

i) Conducting elections to Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State legislatures, President & Vice President.

ii) Enforcing Model Code of Conduct to ensure level playing field.

iii) Registering political parties to ensure accountability.

iv) Recognising National & State Parties eligible for special benefits.

v) Ensuring candidates stick to

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expenditure limits set by Parliament.

vi) Appointing Observers to maintain sanctity of elections.

vii) Advising President with respect to disqualification of members.

viii) Taking punitive actions ~~agt~~ against candidates on violation of RPA 1951 including electoral offence or corrupt practise.

CEC and other EC Act 2023

i) Provides for Collegium for appointment of CEC & EC.

ii) Collegium includes PM, leader of opposition in Lok Sabha and a Cabinet Minister.

iii) Person must have experience in conduct of elections.

iv) Bars from reappointment.

v) CEC is equal to Supreme Court judge.

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Role in ensuring independence

i) Brings Leader of opposition too into collegium. However excludes CJI as ruled in Anoop Baranwal case. Thus Centre has defacto veto.

ii) Provides for an eligibility. Thus less chances of spoils system.

iii) Bars from reappointment. However allows further appointment. Thus chances of politicisation.

iv) Reinstates position of CEC as being equal to Supreme Court judge. Thus, makes it fiercly autonomous

v) However, removal of EC still on advice of CEC.

Election Commission of India is a bulwark of Democracy in India & thus needs to be made immune from politics of the day.

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Q13. अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति (अत्याचार निवारण) अधिनियम, 1989 ने भारत में वंचित समुदायों पर होने वाले अत्याचारों को रोकने और उन्हें भेदभाव के विरुद्ध संरक्षण प्रदान करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 has played a significant role in preventing atrocities and providing protection against discrimination of marginalized communities in India. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe Prevention of Atrocities Act 1989 provides for punishment to those committing atrocities against SC/ST.

Salient features of SC/ST Act 1989

i) Defines types of atrocities committed against SC/ST
eg. derogatory remarks.

ii) Makes it a cognizable offence. Thus person can be arrested without warrant.

iii) Prescribes penalties for committing atrocities against SC/ST.

iv) Protects SC/ST from violence & discrimination.

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However, the Act has not been able to reduce cases of atrocities committed against SC/ST due to —

i) Power given to District Magistrate to register cases. Otter fails to register them.

ii) Inquiry against DM for failing to register cases only on permission from the Central govt.

iii) Number of false cases registered under the case diluting effectiveness of the Act.

iv) Slow judicial process leading to huge pendencies in the SC/ST Act cases.

v) Poor conviction rate in the SC/ST Act cases.

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To improve effectiveness of SC/ST Act, it is advised to —

i) Establish fast track courts to deal with SC/ST cases.

ii) Need to take permission from Central govt to initiate inquiry against DM be done away with.

iii) Punishment to be made stringent for filing of false cases.

SC/ST Act 1989 is the base of enforcing constitutional guarantee of non discrimination (Article 15) & thus needs to be strengthened.

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Q14. राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) के कार्यों पर चर्चा कीजिए। महिलाओं की समस्याओं से निपटने में सिविल न्यायालय की शक्तियां प्राप्त होने से आयोग को क्या लाभ होता है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the functions of the National Commission for Women (NCW). How does the Commission benefit from having the powers of a civil court in dealing with women's issues? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The National Commission of Women is a statutory body established in 1993 to act as an autonomous body for women rights.

Functions of NCW

i) Monitoring implementation of various safeguards & schemes for women protection.

ii) Investigating in cases of women rights violation eg: Bodhisattva Gautam Case

iii) Power of civil court

iv) Advising Central govt on women related policy formulation.

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v) Internal complaint cell act as a grievance redressal body for women.

vi) Legislative cell have helped in promoting women centric legislation eg: Surrogacy Act

vii) Digital Shakti 4.0 to promote digital literacy among women.

Benefits from power of civil Court

i) Can summon any ~~per~~ person to try cases.

ii) Can ask for evidences and other documents related to cases.

iii) Can prescribe punishments in some cases.

iv) Not bound by Indian Evidence Act & but principles of Natural justice.

v) Its orders have powers as of decree of Courts.

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Limitations of NCW

i) Not a constitutional body.

ii) Only recommandatory role. Advice not binding on Govt.

iii) Anti women stand taken several times eg: Banglore Pub Case.

iv) Slow to respond eg: Manipur Violence Case.

Recommendations

i) Constitutional status (Pam Rajput Committee)

ii) Binding recommendations

iii) Financial independence from Ministry of Women & Child development

NCW's role would become very important in light of recent Kolkata rape murder case.

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Q15. भारत में बाल यौन शोषण के मुद्दे का समाधान करने में POCSO अधिनियम, 2012 की प्रभावशीलता का समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Critically analyse the effectiveness of the POCSO Act, 2012 in addressing the issue of child sexual abuse in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The POCSO Act 2012 was enacted on the recommendations of Justice Verma committee to protect children from sexual abuse.

Salient features of POCSO Act 2012

i) Child friendly investigation process
eg: concealing identity, non coercive questioning, etc

ii) Defines various types of child abuse, good v/s bad touch, etc

iii) Defines child as anyone below 18 years of age

iv) Burden of proof on accused thus pro child trial.

v) Bans child pornography.

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Effectiveness of POCSO Act 2012

Achievements

i) Ensured child friendly investigation & trial.

ii) Special courts established under the POCSO Act.

iii) Awareness generation on child sexual abuse cases.

Limitations

i) Consensual romantic relationship attracts stringent provisions of POCSO Act.

ii) Number of child abuse cases have not declined. Infact increased since 2012 (NCRB Report)

iii) Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) content has increased 250 -300%.

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in last 5 years.

iv) Differences in definition of child in various Acts leads to ambiguity eg: Juvenile Justice Act, Child Labour Abolition Act, etc

v) 22nd Law Commission advised against reducing age of consent from 18 years. While in many European countries, it is 15-16 years.

Though the POCSO Act was brought in the right spirit but enforcement has been a challenge. Thus, revamping the Act is needed.

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Q16. भारत में स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन के कार्यान्वयन का समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Critically evaluate the implementation of the Smart Cities Mission in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Smart Cities Mission was launched in 100 cities to make them technology driven for urban solutions.

Salient features of Smart Cities Mission

i) Incorporating of internet and Artificial Intelligence for urban solutions.

ii) Smart traffik lighting.

iii) Technology driven solid waste management.

iv) Data collection on urban migrant population

v) Dynamic Groundwater assesment using Lidar, etc

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Achievements of Smart Cities Mission

i) 100 cities included in the scheme. Thus many tier II cities also included.

ii) ICT driven solutions thus reducing manual errors.

iii) Data driven policy making thus saving resources & targetted delivery.

Limitations of the scheme

i) While centre has released 86% of its funds, states have released only 46 - 67% funds across cities.

ii) Madurai is the only city with 100% project completion despite

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deadline of 2022.

iii) Special Purpose Vehicle created under the scheme is a parallel agency to Urban Local government bodies.

iv) Poor quality of products installed in various cities eg: dysfunctional traffic lights, poor incineration system.

Smart Cities Mission is aimed at making Indian cities ready for 21st Century challenges and achieve SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities)

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Q17. भारत में चरम निर्धनता में काफी कमी आई है, लेकिन स्वस्थ भोजन तक पहुंच अभी भी एक विलासिता का विषय बनी हुई है। स्वस्थ भोजन तक अपर्याप्त पहुंच के कारणों पर चर्चा कीजिए और उनका समाधान करने के उपाय सुझाइए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

While extreme poverty has declined considerably in India, access to healthy food still remains a luxury. Discuss the reasons for poor access to healthy food and suggest measures to overcome the same. (Answer in 250 words) 15

According to recently released National Multidimensional Poverty Index, India has now only 11.28% people multidimensionally poor. Yet, India ranked 111 in Global Hunger Index.

Reasons for poor access to healthy food

i) Availability - Though India produced 323 million tonnes of foodgrains yet it is not available in some regions

ii) Accessibility - due to centralised procurement, lack of food processing industry, logistical challenges.

iii) Affordability - despite free foodgrains

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under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, many families are not able to avail them due to biometric authentication challenges.

iv) Nutritional security - MSP promotes rice-wheat monoculture, lack of nutridiets, prevalance of junk foods leading to obesity even in slum dwellers.

v) High post harvest losses - upto 40% between farm to fork.

Measures to overcome healthy food access

i) Inclusion of nutri foods in Mid day meal scheme
eg: Milk, Egg, Millets

ii) Food fortification with Iron & Folic Acid.

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iii) Decentralised storage eg: Cooperative Grain storage scheme

iv) Community fridges concept. to reduce wastage.

v) Project Sulaimani in Khozikode reduce hunger.

vi) Shifting to millets through pruning of the MSP policy.

vii) Deepening of Food processing industry to increase shelf life eg: Tomato puree.

viii) Star labelling of foods (proposed by FSSAI) to reduce ultra processed food prevalance.

For achievement of SDG 2 it is important to delve deeper from hunger to hidden hunger.

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Q18. भारत में स्वास्थ्य संबंधी परिणामों को बेहतर बनाने में सार्वजनिक रूप से वित्तपोषित स्वास्थ्य बीमा की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Examine the role of publicly funded health insurance in improving health outcomes in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Health insurance density in India reached to $67 in 2023 accounting for nearly 63% of total insurance cover in India. However, a major section is provided by Public sector through schemes like Ayushman Bharat, PM Vayo Vandana Yojana

Role of publicly funded health insurance schemes

i) Increased penetration of health insurance eg: upto 4.2% of GDP.

ii) Increased density of health insurance upto $67.

iii) Affordable tertiary healthcare access eg: Ayushman Bharat.

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iv) ~~Dete~~ Decline in mortality rates from Cancer, Tuberculosis, etc

v) Reduced out of pocket expenditure - currently at 46%.

vi) Improved Geriatric care in India which in greatly neglected by the private sector.

However, there are limitations to publicly funded health insurance schemes

i) High burden on public exchequer
eg: ₹ 5 lakh to 10 crore households under AB PMJAY.

ii) Reduced focus on preventive and primary healthcare
eg: investments in sanitation.

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iii) Claim settlement issues with private companies tied up with public sector.

iv) Not all hospitals empanelled under the scheme.

Recommendations

i) Focus on One Health Approach thus integrating primary & preventive healthcare with secondary & tertiary care.

ii) Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission to allow interoperability of benefits across states.

Health insurance coverage is vital to achieve SDG 3 but needs to be complimented with other healthcare interventions.

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Q19. भारत की 'पड़ोस प्रथम (Neighbourhood First)' नीति पड़ोसी देशों के साथ संबंधों को बेहतर करने में किस हद तक सफल रही है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent has India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy been successful in enhancing its relations with the neighbouring countries? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Neighbourhood First Policy was proposed by IK Gujral under the Gujral doctrine to prioritise neighbourhood in relations & adopt non reciprocal approach with neighbours.

Achievements of Neighbour hood First policy

i) Reopening of relations with neighbours eg: Bhutan.

ii) India extended lines of credit to neighbours eg: Sri Lanka during BOP crisis.

iii) Connectivity projects could be initiated eg: Kaladan Multimodal project.

iv) South Asia Free Trade Agreement could come into force.

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v) India could base its naval bases in neighbouring countries
eg: Maldives.

vi) Non reciprocal approach led to infrastructure development in countries eg: Uthuru Thilafalu in Maldives, Vaccine Maitri.

vii) Earned goodwill of neighbours
eg: Sheikh Hasina.

Limitations of Neighbourhood First Policy

i) Anti India sentiments in several countries eg: India Out Campaign in Maldives.

ii) Pro Chinese policy of neighbours despite Indian support -
eg: Bangladesh Defence pact with China

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iii) Big Brotherly attitude of India sometimes eg: Nepal Blockade 2016.

iv) Relations with Pakistan have reached new lows especially after Uri attacks.

v) SAARC has become a jammed vehicle.

vi) Political crises in several South Asian countries eg: Sri Lanka, Bangladesh.

vii) Low intra regional trade (5%) despite SAFTA in place.

Thus, there is a need to revive the policy in the form of Neighbourhood First 2.0 based on the philosophy of "one can change ones allies but not neighbours"

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Q20. पश्चिम एशिया में बढ़ते संघर्षों के भारत पर पड़ने वाले उल्लेखनीय प्रभावों को रेखांकित करते हुए इसके क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक स्थिरता पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Examine the effects of escalating conflicts in West Asia on regional and global stability, highlighting the significant repercussions for India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

~~Israel~~ Israel Hamas war began on October 7 and has destabilised the region since then. There seems no end to the war at present.

Impact on regional stability

i) Abraham Accords thrown out of context as Israel - Arab schism has widened.

ii) Iran's active support to Hamas Hezbollah & Houthis deepening the conflict.

iii) Iran's nuclear adventurism can destabilise it further.

iv) Use of non state actors with no regard to war ethics

v) Israel admant on annihilation of Hamas.

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Impact on global stability

i) Deepening divide between West supporting Israel & , Russia & China supporting Iran.

ii) Houthis attacks in Red Sea impacting global trade.

iii) Dysfunctionality of global institutions like UN & ICC laid bare.

iv) Huge humanitarian cost in terms of lives lost & food demand.

v) Chances of war escalating including Hezbollah & Iran directly

Repurcussions for India

i) India imports 80% of its oil demands. war hiked oil prices.

ii) India's trade through Red Sea

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region is jeopardised.

iii) Indian diaspora in West Asia under direct threat.

iv) Connectivity projects like INSTC, IMEC Corridor jeopardised.

v) Abraham - Indic accords prospects nullified.

vi) Future of I2U2 perilous.

Suggestions to deal with the conflict

Short term
- → Immediate ceasefire
- → Sustainable Humanitarian corridor
- → Sanctions

Long term
- → Two State Solution
- → Gaza Strip to be under Palestinian authority

Israel Hamas war is causing great damage to civilians & thus needs to be immediately stopped.

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सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-III) (2930)

निर्धारित समय: **तीन घंटे**
Time Allowed: ***Three Hours***

अधिकतम अंक: **250**
Maximum Marks: ***250***

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

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This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

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माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

ENGLISH

तारीख
Date

25/8/2024

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III)
GENERAL STUDIES (Paper III)

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प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks		प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	
1			11		
2			12		
3			13		
4			14		
5			15		
6			16		
7			17		
8			18		
9			19		
10			20		
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)			उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)		
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सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-III) (2930)

निर्धारित समय: **तीन** घंटे Time Allowed: **Three** Hours	अधिकतम अंक: **250** Maximum Marks: **250**

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

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सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

*There are **TWENTY** questions printed both in **HINDI** and in **ENGLISH**.*

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. **Contextual Competence**
2. **Content Competence**
3. **Language Competence**
4. **Introduction Competence**
5. **Structure - Presentation Competence**
6. **Conclusion Competence**

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग का तीव्र विकास किस प्रकार भारत में खाद्य सुरक्षा संबंधी चुनौतियां उत्पन्न कर रहा है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How is the rapid growth of the food processing industry leading to food safety challenges in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Food Processing Industry contributes 8% to the GDP of India and is one of the fastest growing sectors in India

Reasons for Rapid growth of Food Processing sector

1) 20 Agroclimatic zones ⇒ huge crop diversity

2) Highest cattle population in the world.

3) Emerged as largest inland fishery producing country

4) Improvements in packaging sanitary & phytosanitary measures

5) Reducing trans fat eg. FSSAI mandates it to less than 2%.

6) Increasing demand for processed food due to both partner earning.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Food Processing leading to Food Safety Challenges

1) ~~WHO~~ FAO has highlighted the rapid emergence of Ultra processed food (SOFA Report)

2) Rising cases of Non communicable diseases eg: Hypertension.

3) Overdependence on animal based food = more land requirement

4) Rising cases of adulteration in processed food eg: Rice Milk, etc

5) Increasing diabetes even in urban poors due to eating junk foods.

Food Processing Industry needs to be nutri based including fortification elimination of transfat & use of millets.

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2. भारत की सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अंतर्गत उचित मूल्य की दुकान (FPS) का प्रारंभ एक विकासशील प्रक्रिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Under the Public Distribution System of India, the Fair Price Shop (FPS) transformation is an evolving process. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The Public Distribution System under NFSA 2013 guarantees wheat, Rice & coarse grains at ₹ 3, 2, 1 to nearly 80 crore people distributed through fair price shops.

Transformation of Fair Price Shops

1) Originally envisaged only for NFSA food distribution programme

2) Later even began selling non ~~food~~ cereal items eg. sugar, spices, etc

3) selling of Khadi products, AYUSH products, etc too has been allowed.

4) ePOS digitized the Direct Benefit Transfer under PDS.

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→ 5) Seed & fertilizer too can be sold through Fair Price Shops.

→ 6) Can also act as Common Service Centre, Bank correspondents, etc.

Challenges with FPS

→ 1) Adulteration of cereals with other food products

→ 2) Black marketting & corruption

→ 3) Technical glitches in biometric authentication leaves out genuine beneficiaries

---

Solutions

→ 1) Pre packaged foodgrain bags of 5 kg each

→ 2) Blockchain technology usage for foodgrain movement tracking.

Fair Price Shops are vital to achieve SDG2 (Zero Hunger) & improve rank in Global Hunger Index (111 currently)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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3. भारत में एग्रीटेक स्टार्ट-अप्स किसानों की कृषि उत्पादकता एवं बाजार पहुंच बढ़ाने में किस प्रकार मदद कर रहे हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How are agri-tech startups in India helping farmers in enhancing farm productivity and market access? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Agritech startups are companies dedicated at improving the agricultural sector in India.

Role in improving farm productivity

1) Targetted fertilizer delivery through soil testing.

2) Genetically engineered seeds ⇒ improved yields

3) Better fertilizer proportion production eg: (NPK - 4:2:1)

4) Micro-irrigation facility on demand

5) Rental models for harvestors Pusa decomposers, etc

6) Farm mechanization promotion eg: women friendly equipment manufacturing

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Role in Market access promotion

1) Act as agriextension service centres eg: kiosk model

2) Use of AI for market analysis

3) Digital solutions for cross India sales

4) Blockchain technology for food movement tracking.

5) Promote contract farming & FPO formation.

6) Provide facilities for quality checking, standardisation, packaging, certification especially for organic products.

Agripreneurs using Agri tech solutions can truly make India as the global granary leveraging its traditional agricultural knowledge & agroclimatic diversity.

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4. भारत में भूमि सुधारों के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में भूमि अभिलेखों के डिजिटलीकरण की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the role of digitization of land records in the effective implementation of land reforms in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Land reforms 1.0 could not be much successful except in few states. Thus, Land Reforms 2.0 came based on promoting land leasing, contract farming, etc.

Role of Digitization in land reform implementation

1) Provides conclusive titles instead of presumptive titles
eg: DILRMP

2) Provides certainity in minds of farmers ⇒ promotes land leasing.

3) Reduces land related litigation.

4) Promotes contract farming when farmers assured of his farm ownership.

5) Promotes consolidation of fragmented

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landholdings when farmer's land clearly identifiable.

→ 6) Promotes cooperative farming & formation of FPOs

→ 7) Promotes farm forestry by demarcating habitations from farm lands eg: SVAMITVA.

Challenges with land record digitization

→ 1) Poor land revenue department record books

→ 2) Legacy conflicts between family members over land ownership.

→ 3) Lack of drones, satellites etc for land assessment.

Land record digitization can truly pave the way for land reforms ushering redistributive justice (Currently Top 10% farmers own 45% farmland).

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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5. भारत को अपने जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश का पूर्ण उपयोग करने और आर्थिक विकास में तेजी लाने के लिए एक विनिर्माण-केंद्रित विकास मॉडल को अपनाने की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To fully exploit its demographic dividend and accelerate economic growth, India needs to adopt a manufacturing-led growth model. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India has 65% population (~100 crore) in the working age group (15-60 years) with median age being 28 years. However the demographic dividend requires manufacturing sector.

Need for manufacturing led growth model

1) Labour intensive eg: MSME are most labour intensive sectors

2) To absorb the rising workforce population

3) Return on investment is very high in manufacturing sector

4) To utilise opportunity of slowing China & China plus one strategy.

5) To achieve $5 trillion economy target.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Challenges with the model

1) 40% graduates in India are non employable.
2) Huge upfront investment compared to service sector.
3) Lack of focus on vocational education & skill training.
4) Competition from China, Vietnam Bangladesh, etc
5) High logistic cost (12% of GDP)

Solutions

1) SEZ expansion
2) One District One Product expansion
3) Support to MSMEs - Mudra loans ECGLS, etc
4) National Logistic Policy

Manufacturing sector contributes 17% to GDP currently. It needs to be increased to 25% to achieve SDG 9 (Industry, Infrastructure, Innovation).

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6. जलवायु परिवर्तन के परिणामस्वरूप बढ़ते प्राकृतिक खतरों से निपटने के लिए भारतीय तटीय समुदायों की प्रत्यास्थता को किस प्रकार मजबूत किया जा सकता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How can the resilience of Indian coastal communities be strengthened to tackle the growing natural hazards resulting from climate change? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India has a long coastline of 7500 km. with increasing climate change effects coastal resilience needs to be improved.

Natural hazards in coastal regions

1) Sea level rise threatening submergence of cities eg: Mumbai

2) Increased intensity of cyclones increased frequency too eg, Arabian sea

3) Salt water ingress contaminating ground water

4) Coral bleaching threatening coastal ecosystem

5) Mangrove destruction in cyclones, pollution, salt water ingress

6) Tsunami eg: 2004

7) Concretisation, infrastructure creation, unsustainable fishing.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Solutions to tackle them

1) Ecoshields & Natural based solutions
   eg: MISHTI for Mangroves
2) Construction of embankments along sea shore
3) Coastal Regulation Zone guidelines with CRZ I protection for mangrove corals, etc
4) Blue Economy vision 2025 & Harit Sagar programme
5) Use of technology for early warning system eg: Satellites, Lidars, drones
6) Deployment of dedicated coastal NDRF
7) Sustainable fishing, inland fishery promotion.

Coastal regions are most vulnerable to climate change. Protection of coastal region lies at trijunction of SDG 13, 14 & 15.

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7. भारत में अधिक संधारणीय पर्यावरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए ग्रीन क्रेडिट प्रोग्राम किस प्रकार कार्बन प्रबंधन से कहीं अधिक विस्तृत है? इसके कार्यान्वयन के संबंध में विभिन्न चिंताएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does the Green Credit Programme extend beyond carbon management to promote a more sustainable environment in India? What are the various concerns about its implementation? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Green Credit Initiative was launched by India together with UAE at COP 28 meeting. It is based on Carbon Credit principles but for individuals.

Carbon management	Green Credit Program
i) Aim is to trade carbon credit	i) Aim is to trade credit for all environment protection efforts.
ii) Given for reduction in carbon emissions	ii) Given for environment protection efforts
iii) Vital for large companies & carbon emitting sectors	iii) Recognizes efforts by individuals & NGOs
iv) Restricted to carbon emission reduction	iv) Includes pollution abetment, afforestation etc
v) Globally recognized under Kyoto Protocol	v) Not bound by any convention.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Concerns with Green Credit Program

1) Defining green projects
   eg: Small hydro projects are not truly green

2) Standard setting for recognizing green projects & associated benefits

3) Market development ~~for~~ for green credit. eg: PAT for oil credit

4) Issue of greenwashing by individuals in lack of proper definition, standards, certification & third party verification.

5) Diverting attention from real issue i.e. consumption pattern (Economic Survey 2023-24)

Green Credit program is based on individual efforts towards climate change mitigation. It can help achieve SDG 13.

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8. जब पहले से ही अन्य उपग्रह नेविगेशन सिस्टम उपलब्ध हैं, तो NavIC की आवश्यकता क्यों है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What is the need for NavIC when existing satellite navigation systems are already available? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

NavIC is the indigenous satellite navigation system developed by India like the GPS of USA, Beidou of China, etc.

Need for NavIC

1) Security imperative – not depending on other countries especially in war times.

2) Localised satellite system – higher resolution, customized to Indian needs, etc

3) USA withheld usage of GPS by India in some sectors

4) Improved Global ~~navi~~ navigation system eg: 1500 km range beyond Indian borders.

5) Available with all major powers of world eg: USA, China, Russia, EU, Japan

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→ 6) Promotes e commerce, rental cab, etc in India eg: Ola

→ 7) Vital in coastal region management SAGAR initiative of India.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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9. साइबर-सक्षम वित्तीय अपराध वैश्विक धन शोधन (मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग) के नए क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है। चर्चा कीजिए। सरकार इस मुद्दे का समाधान किस प्रकार कर सकती है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Cyber-enabled financial crime has emerged as the new frontier of global money laundering. Discuss. How can the government address this issue? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

IMF Global Financial Stability Report (2023) highlighted the increased number of cybercrimes since Pandemic, and its impact on economic system.

Cyber enabled financial crime emergence

1) Penetration of cryptocurrency with decentralised regulation
eg: Bitcoin

2) Interoperationalisation of UPI & Rupay Cards eg: Nepal

3) Credit & Debit cards allowing easier travel & carrying unlike cash

4) Cyber attacks directly leading to money theft, ransom, etc
eg: Wannacry

5) Low digital & financial literacy ⇒ easier targets
eg: Jamtara case

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Possible solutions for government

1) Regulation of cryptocurrency
   eg: MiCA in Europe
2) Launch of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)
3) Dedicated bodies for cyber crime & money laundering with interoperability
   eg: ED + CERTIN
4) Intelligence gathering eg: FIU-IND
5) Mandatory OTP for financial transactions
6) Improve financial literacy
   eg: 'RBI kehta hai' ads

India ranks 10th in the Global Cybercrime Index necessitating vigilance & policy formulation.

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10. इंडियन आर्मी वर्ष 2024 को 'प्रौद्योगिकी समावेशन वर्ष (Year of Technology Absorption)' के रूप में मना रही है। इसके आलोक में, स्पष्ट कीजिए कि भारत के रक्षा क्षेत्रक में प्रौद्योगिकी के समावेशन की आवश्यकता क्यों है। इस पहल में भारत को किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ सकता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Indian Army is observing the year 2024 as the 'Year of Technology Absorption'. In light of this, explain why there is a need for technology absorption in the defence sector of India. What challenges can India face in this initiative? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Indian Army is observing 2024 as 'Year of Technology Absorption' initiating a range of technology solutions for India's security

Need for technology absorption

1) Rising domains of warfare
eg: Space, Cyber, etc

2) China declared Near Space command as 5th unit of Defence

3) Tackling new challenges eg: terrorists using drones, etc

4) Better intelligence gathering
eg: NATGRID

5) Interoperationalisation of services eg: CCTNS, NIDAN, etc

6) ~~Reducing~~ Blurring lines between nuclear & conventional weapons
eg: tactical weapons

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Challenges faced by India

1) Low technological prowess compared to developed countries.
iCET may help

2) Low funding on R&D
GERD = 0.65% of GDP

3) Honey trapping of scientists by adversaries

4) Import dependency on other countries eg: Rare Earth Element

5) Low private sector participation

India's defence sector needs to be tech ready for 21st century challenges.

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11. भारत के पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र (NER) में व्यापार एवं उद्योगों के विकास में किन समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ा है? इन समस्याओं से निपटने हेतु किए गए उपायों पर टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
What are the issues faced in the development of trade and industries in the North-Eastern Region (NER) of India? Comment on the measures that have been taken to tackle these issues. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The North East India is connected to the mainland India through the narrow Siliguri corridor also called the Chicken's neck.

Challenges in trade & industry development in Northeast India

1) Geographical isolation from the mainland country
2) Hilly terrain eg: Mikir hills
3) Refugee influx eg: Chakmas, Hajongs, Rohingya make the region instable
4) Border issues eg: with China in Arunachal Pradesh
5) Huge tribal population usually apprehensive of intrusive development projects
6) Closeness to Golden triangle leads to drug menace in youth.

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However, despite the challenges, various initiatives have been taken for development of the North east region

Initiatives taken

1) UNNATI Scheme announced for industrial development in the region - includes credit availability

2) PM DEVINE scheme for holistic development of North east

3) Dedicated Ministry of Development in North East region (MoDONER)

4) Kaladan multimodal project connects Kolkata to Northeast via Sittwe in Myanmar

5) North east council for joint development of North east

6) India Myanmar Thailand trilateral highway

7) BIMSTEC & BBIN promotes regional approach.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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→ 8) Power exchange agreement with Bhutan eg: Mangdechu project

→ 9) VIth Schedule provides autonomy to tribal communities in governance.

→ 10) Joint operations to eliminate insurgents eg: Operation Sunrise Operation all out.

North East region is critical for India's Act East Policy & Indo Pacific Initiative (IPOI).

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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12. जलवायु परिवर्तन और बढ़ते जल संकट के युग में, सूक्ष्म सिंचाई प्रणालियां भारत में संधारणीय कृषि पद्धतियों में किस प्रकार योगदान दे सकती हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In the era of climate change and growing water scarcity, how can micro-irrigation systems contribute to sustainable agricultural practices in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India has 4% of global freshwater resource with 18% of global population. Further, nearly 90% of water resource in the country is used for agricultural practises. With climate change growing water scarcity, micro irrigation can help.

Role of microirrigation in water conservation

1) Based on philosophy of 'more crop per drop'
2) Targetted delivery leads to water conservation.
3) No need of flooding the fields, but water can directly be provided at roots
4) Improves fertilizer use efficiency too
5) Helps preserve groundwater which is fast being depleted.

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However, micro irrigation has some challenges too —

Challenges with micro irrigation

1) High upfront cost in installing drips & sprinklers
2) Low farmer awareness about micro irrigation.
3) Apprehensions of reduced yields especially paddy crop
4) May not be suitable in all regions.
5) Power & water subsidies

Government has taken various initiatives to promote micro irrigation-

Initiatives taken

1) PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana based on 'more crop per drop'
2) Jal Kranti Abhiyan & Jal Shakti Abhiyan promote rain water harvesting.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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→ 3) launch of nano urea & liquid urea ideal for micro irrigation use.

→ 4) subsidies provided in installing drip & ~~sprinkl~~ sprinklers

→ 5) Elimination of power & water subsidies is being discussed.

Though microirrigation provides great benefits, there is also a need to promote dryland farming to reduce water usage in Agricultural sector.

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13. भारतीय रेलवे में माल परिवहन से संबंधित समस्याओं का समाधान करने तथा घरेलू माल ढुलाई में इसकी हिस्सेदारी बढ़ाने के लिए कौन-सी रणनीतियां अपनाई जा सकती हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What strategies can be adopted to overcome the issues pertaining to freight transportation in the Indian Railways and increase its share in the domestic freight? (Answer in 250 words) 15

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India Railways carry nearly 33% of the freight in the country with roadways accounting for 66%.

India Railways has set a target to increase the share to 45% by 2030.

Issues with Railway freight in India

1) Slower speed of Railways average speed is just 40 - 45 kmph

2) High carbon ~~fro~~ footprint of Indian Railways

3) Issue of cross subsidisation from freight to Passenger

4) Lack of dedicated freight corridors - only 2

5) Monopoly of Indian Railways with negligible private sector participation

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→ 6) Railway accidents eg: Balasore accident.

→ 7) Lack of last mile connectivity which favours roadways.

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Strategies that can be adopted

→ 1) Expansion of dedicated freight corridors

→ 2) Greening of Indian Railways
eg: net zero target by 2030

→ 3) Revenue saving through reduction of expenditure on pensions, etc
eg: 41 K target of Indian Railways

→ 4) Improve operating ratio from current ₹ 1.07 to less than ₹ 1

→ 5) Private players entry in the freight sector eg. IRCTC.

→ 6) Elimination of all surface level crossings (Anil Kakodkar committee)

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→ 7) Fast speed trains, replacement of coaches with Link Hofmann Busch coaches.

→ 8) Electronic signalling system, KAVACH for automatic braking.

Indian Railways is the lifeline of India. But the enterprise needs to be modernised to reduce logistic cost from 12% to 8% of GDP

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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14. उन कारकों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिन्होंने नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में प्रभावशाली प्रगति करने और वैश्विक नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा परिवर्तन में अग्रणी के रूप में स्थापित होने में भारत की सहायता की है। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the factors that have aided India in making impressive strides in the renewable energy sector and establishing itself as a frontrunner in the global renewable energy transition. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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India's renewable energy contribution to total installed capacity has reached nearly 45% with solar (85 GW), Hydro (47 GW) & wind (46 GW) being the top runners.

Factors aiding India in renewable energy strides

1) Tropical country thus huge solar power potential (748 GW)

2) Potential of 656 GW of wind energy at 120 m especially in Gujarat region

3) Huge coastline favouring Tidal energy (12.5 GW potential)

4) large number of rivers with waterfalls, rapids, etc favouring hydro energy

5) Huge Biomass potential (90 GW) due to large population ⇒ large waste generation.

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→ 6) Natural lifestyle of Indians living in harmony with nature

→ 7) Government support eg: PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli yojana, PLI for Solar PV module manufacturing.

→ 8) International collaborations eg: International Solar Alliance, Global Biofuel Alliance.

→ 9) Geothermal (Manikaran) & Ocean thermal (OTEC) potential

However, there are also a few challenges in renewable energy promotion –

Challenges
- → 1) Seasonality of source eg: solar energy
- → 2) Regional variability eg: low hydro potential in West India
- → 3) Storage problems as temporal in nature.

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→ 4) Grid connectivity especially when DISCOMs already stressed.

→ 5) Import dependency for Rare Earth Elements, Silicon, etc

→ 6) Disaster vulnerability, resettlement of population in Hydropower projects.

Possible Solutions

→ 1) Storage improvement
eg: Li-ion batteries, Gravity batteries

→ 2) Rooftop solar projects with net metering.

→ 3) Power exchange agreements, One Grid projects

→ 4) Run of river projects.

→ 5) Use of 2G, 3G & 4G Biofuels.

For meeting SDG 13, it is important to invest heavily in renewable energy.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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15. उर्वरकों और कीटनाशकों से युक्त कृषि अपवाह पर्यावरण प्रदूषण में किस प्रकार योगदान देता है? कृषि अपवाह के प्रभाव को कम करने के लिए क्या उपाय अपनाए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does agricultural runoff containing fertilizers and pesticides contribute to environmental pollution? What measures can be taken to mitigate the impact of agricultural runoff? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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India has one of the highest fertilizer usage in the world and also in proportions of 8:3:1 (N:P:K) when ideal is 4:2:1. This leads to many environmental challenges –

Environmental pollution due to agricultural runoffs

1) Reduced soil response to fertilizers ⇒ soil pollution
2) Leaching in Groundwater ⇒ groundwater contamination.
3) Runoffs in rivers leading to algal blooms, hypoxia etc.
4) Disturbed reproductive cycles of aquatic animals.
5) Acidification of oceans leading to calcerous organism extinction
6) Bioaccumulation & Biomagnification

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eg: heavy metals found in human blood.

→ 7) Reduced dissolved oxygen & increased Biological Oxygen demand of water bodies.

→ 8) Methane emissions into atmosphere from waterlogged fields.

Measures that can be taken

→ 1) Promoting organic farming & Natural farming
eg: PM Paramparagat Krishi Yojana

→ 2) Reducing chemical fertilizer usage & promotion of manure eg: PM PRANAM.

→ 3) Use of nano urea, liquid urea, urea gold ⇒ targetted delivery = less leaching

→ 4) Fixed combinations of fertilizers through nutrient based subsidy promoting better NPK ratios

→ 5) Microirrigation directly reduces runoffs.

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→ 6) Promotion of dryland farming
eg: Millets

→ 7) Reclamation of wetlands which act as natural filters of waterbodies.

→ 8) Genetically engineered crops requiring less fertilizers.

→ 9) Promotion of Biocompost, vermicompost, etc.

Agriculture sector needs to be made climate smart for evergreen revolution to happen.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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16. हिमालयी राज्यों में पर्यटकों की बढ़ती संख्या ने उनके पारिस्थितिकीय समावेशन क्षमता को पार कर लिया है, जिसके कारण बड़े पैमाने पर मानव-जनित आपदाएं उत्पन्न हुई हैं। संधारणीय पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देते हुए ऐसी आपदाओं को रोकने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The growing influx of tourists in Himalayan states has breached their ecological carrying capacity, leading to significant man-made disasters. What measures can be implemented to prevent such disasters while promoting sustainable tourism? Discuss with relevant examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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India Himalayan Region (IHR) is one of the most scenic beauty place in the world attracting over 200 million tourists every year. However, it has ecological costs —

Man made disasters in IHR

→ 1) Landslides occurance due to high tourist influx

→ 2) Water scarcity eg: Manali region

→ 3) Groundwater depletion ⇒ disturbing of natural ~~isot~~ isostasy

→ 4) Increased power demand = Hydroprojects = land subsidence eg: Tapovan Vishnugad project

→ 5) Increased hospitality infrastructure creation eg: Hotels.

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→ 6) Plastic & solid waste accumulation
eg: Dal lake in kashmir.

→ 7) Increased cases of GLOFs, etc due to intrusive infrastructure projects – Ravi Chopra committee highlighted it.

Measures needed for sustainable tourism

→ 1) Tourist planning & limits on maximum number of tourists

→ 2) Non intrusive project development eg: run of river projects

→ 3) Artificial soil stabilisation (concrete), groundwater recharge, etc.

→ 4) construction of retaining walls, embankments along glacial lakes

→ 5) Promotion of afforestation

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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terrace farming in the region.

→ 6) SECURE project for holistic protection of the region including pastures, livelihoods, etc

→ 7) Himalayan States Council by NITI Aayog for integrated development.

→ 8) Conscious tourist behaviour promotion eg: no water wastage, proper solid waste disposal, etc

Indian Himalayan Region is the water capital of the Earth & thus vital for conservation directly impacting over 1.4 billion lives.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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17. सुपरकंडक्टर्स विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी के विभिन्न क्षेत्रकों में नवाचार को किस प्रकार बढ़ावा देते हैं? उदाहरण सहित स्पष्ट कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How do superconductors fuel innovation in diverse fields of science and technology? Illustrate with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Superconductors are materials with negligible ~~resis~~ resistance to electricity & thus can offer great advantage in fast & clean electricity transmission.

Superconductors usage in diverse fields

1) Zero resistance electricity transmission
2) Usage in electronic devices eg. IC chips
3) Usage in Quantum computers for improved efficiency.
4) Usage in Space shuttles for electricity conservation
5) Vital for Industrial Revolution 4.0 based on AI, IoT etc.

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Yet they have some serious challenges —

Challenges with Superconductors

1) Near absolute zero temperature requirement.

2) Rare Earth Element requirement. But China controls 90% market.

3) Technological know how missing especially in developing countries eg. Taiwan is a leader in semiconductor technology.

4) Technological apartheid by developed countries.

Recently, India has signed the ICET with USA which can help in development of superconductors. Also few scientists have been making progress in achieving super conductivity at room temperature.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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18. यद्यपि भारत में लगभग सभी प्रकार के बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकारों को कवर करने वाले कानून मौजूद हैं, फिर भी अनेक प्रवर्तन संबंधी, विनियामकिय और प्रशासनिक चुनौतियां भारत में बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकारों के व्यावसायीकरण में बाधा उत्पन्न करती हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

While India has laws covering almost all types of intellectual property rights, numerous enforcement, regulatory and administrative challenges hamper the commercialisation of IPRs in India. Elaborate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Intellectual Property Rights are the rights of a person over an innovative process, product, etc which one ~~ca~~ has created using his/her intellect.

Types of IPR
- 1) Patents for innovative designs, etc
- 2) Copyrights for artistic products
- 3) Trademarks for company logos etc
- 4) Industrial Designs for innovative industrial processes
- 5) Traditional knowledge system of indigenous communities.

Laws regulating IPR in India
- 1) Patent Act for protection of novel technologies, process, etc
  eg: Vaccines
- 2) Trademark Act for

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protection of trademarks of companies

→ 3) Farmers Rights Act for protection of agricultural process & due benefits to farmers.

→ 4) Geographical Indication Act for protection of local products
eg: ~~Lock~~ Aligarh Locks

→ 5) Indian Traditional knowledge Digital Library for indigenous communities' knowledge system protection.

Challenges in IPR commercialization in India

→ 1) Evergreening clause prohibits evergreening of patents by minor design changes.

→ 2) compulsory licensing clause for life saving drugs, processes, etc in public benefit ⇒ curbs innovation.

→ 3) controversies surrounding GI

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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tag identification
eg: Rosgulla in West Bengal v/s Odisha

→ 4) Stringent provisions of Farmers Right Act
eg: Pepsico Potato case

→ 5) Absence of Traditional knowledge legislation.

Recently WIPO introduced the Traditional knowledge Treaty which can further enhance IPR protection across the globe.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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19. एकीकृत थियेटर कमान का निर्माण करने में सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, परीक्षण कीजिए कि कमानों का थिएटराइजेशन किस प्रकार तीनों सेनाओं के बीच जनशक्ति और संसाधनों के बेहतर एकीकरण और युक्तिकरण को बढ़ावा दे सकता है। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Keeping in view the challenges in creating integrated theatre commands, examine how the theaterisation of commands can lead to greater integration and rationalisation of manpower and resources among the three services. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Integrated theatre command is based on the philosophy of integrating the army, navy, airforce, space & nuclear command under one authority in a regional theatre wise manner. This was proposed by Kargil Review Committe & Shekatkar Committe.

Challenges in Integrated theatre command

→ 1) Planning required before implementing integrated theatre command.

→ 2) Increased manforce & resource requirement in short term.

→ 3) Lack of National Security Strategy

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However, integrated theatre command is still desirable as —

i) Leads to targetted response against adversary in case of war.

ii) Faster decision making is possible as single command authority for each region | theatre

iii) Integration of resources of triservices
eg: Andaman & Nicobar triservices command.

iv) Inclusion of space warfare too into account eg: China declared ~~Spa~~ Near Space Command as 5th unit of its defence force

v) Nuclear response & deterrance become more agile when theatre wise deployment.

vi) Reduction in manforce requirement in the long run.

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vii) Interoperability between resources of the three services eg: common satellites, Lidars, etc

viii) Dedicated & ~~geo~~ geographically sensitive response eg: Coastal theatre requirements are different from Mountain theatre requirements.

Integrated theatre command together with National Security Strategy is important for India when all military superpowers have it including China.

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20. सीमावर्ती गांवों को न केवल भौगोलिक दृष्टि से बल्कि सुविधाओं के मामले में भी प्रथम गांव मानना, सीमा सुरक्षा बढ़ाने की एक प्रमुख रणनीति हो सकती है। विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा किए जा रहे उपायों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Treating border villages as first villages not just geographically but also in terms of facilities can be a key strategy for enhancing border security. Discuss. Also, highlight the measures being taken by the government in this regard. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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PM Modi highlighted the role of Border villages in security of the country calling them as first rather than last villages in his Independence Day Speech 2023.

Role of Border villages in enhancing Border security

1) Act as first responders in event of war, calamity, etc

2) Act as eyes & ears of the Armed forces.

3) Community policing ~~for~~ can help the Border Police eg: BSF

4) Can help maintain cordial relations with neighbouring country villages eg: Myanmar, Bhutan

5) Help in facilitating trade across borders.

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→ 6) Help curbing arms running drug trafficking, etc in border areas eg:- Golden triangle route

→ 7) Help protect country from terrorist ~~infi~~ infiltration

eg: Jammu region.

Measures taken for Border village development

→ 1) Vibrant Village Programme aims at saturation of border villages with basic facilities

→ 2) Construction of Border roads by BRO

→ 3) Construction of tunnels, etc in border areas eg: Sela tunnel

→ 4) Power exchange agreements with neighbouring countries eg: Bhutan

→ 5) Free Movement Regime

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Upto 16 km along India - Myanmar border for tribal integration.

→ 6) Border security Force ↑ expanded Coverage upto 50 kms

→ 7) Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) using lasers, drones, etc

→ 8) Sadbhavana scheme of Indian Army for development of trust between army & local populace through army school establishments.

~~Bor~~ India ranks 7th in Global Terrorism Index. Border Villages can act as eyes & ears reducing terrorist infiltration.

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